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*John Degrave, Francis Minsball and others,
Owners of the Seven Sail of Ships taken
up in July, 1697. by the Commissioners
of the Transport.*

*Humbly presented to the Honourable House
of Commons, That the Transport did
endeavour to hire Ships to carry Provisions to
Newfoundland, but it being so late in the
Year were generally refused because it was so
extreamly dangerous to undertake; They would
not run the hazard of their Shipping and Men
in so difficult an Undertaking.*

TH A T the said *Degrave* and *Minsball* with others,
who understood the Country and Dangers thereof,
being informed that the said Country must needs
perish except they were supplied, did conclude
amongst themselves to run all Dangers whatever to perform so
great a Service as they found that would be to His MAJESTY
and GOVERNMENT; and so forthwith did Contract
with the *Transport* to perform the same, and did agree to be
paid out of that Years Funds; so that then their Ships did proceed
accordingly, tho' when they came on the Coast, it being so late
in the Year, they underwent great hardships and losses both in
the Rigging and Sails, and other Inconveniencies both to Men
and Ships; so that in Seven Sail but Four could attain to the
Relief thereof; and yet notwithstanding this Service was faith-
fully performed with so great a difficulty and loss, and to be
paid out of the Funds as aforesaid, there is no satisfaction as yet
received by the Performers thereof, altho' the Accompts are
settled, made up and allowed by the *Transport*.

*All which is Humbly submitted to the Consideration
of this Honourable House.*